

## **SECOND CONFERENCE OF DEANS AND ADVISERS OF MEN**

Held at

The University of Illinois

February 20, 21, 1920

The time chosen for the conference proved unfavorable, both because the beginning of the new semester is an exceedingly busy time in the offices of all deans and advisers of men and because of the "flu" epidemic which was present in many parts of the country and which had some effect upon attendees.

The several institutions were represented as follows:

The University of Illinois	Dean T.A. Clark
	Assistant Dean H.B. Garman
The University of Indiana	Dean Clarence Edmondson
The University of Iowa	Professor H.I. Rietz
The University of Kentucky	Dean C.R. Melcher
The University of Michigan	Professor L.A. Strauss
The University of Minnesota	Dean E.E. Nicholson
Purdue University	Dean Stanley Coulter
The University of Wisconsin	Dean S.H. Goodnight

Dean Robert Rienow of Iowa, A.R. Warnock of Penn State College, and A.R. Priest of the University of Washington, as well as representatives who were to have been designated by several other institutions were unfortunately unable to be present.

Organization was effected Friday morning with S.H. Goodnight and L.A. Strauss of last year's conference as acting chairman and secretary respectively. It was moved and carried that the work of the conference should be regularly carried on annually, the secretary, to serve for three years, and a third member, to be chosen annually. The officers for the current year were then chosen, Dean T.A. Clark being elected chairman, Dean S.H. Goodnight secretary, and Dean Robert Rienow member of the executive committee (Prof. H.I. Rietz to act for Dean Rienow in his absence). The executive committee was commissioned to select the time and place for next year's meeting. Invitations were extended by the universities of Iowa, Kentucky and Purdue. At a subsequent session the committee recommended Iowa City as the place and late April or early May of 1921 as the time for the next meeting. Adopted.

The question as to what extent we shall attempt to increase the attendance at these meetings was introduced, but no decision was reached: the executive committee was instructed to exercise its own discretion in this matter for the coming year.

The following program which has been proposed for the meeting was then carried thru. Professor Rietz presenting Dean Rienow's paper and Professor Strauss and Dean Clark leading the discussion of the topics assigned to Dean Priest.

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Friday, Feb. 20

- 9:30 A.M.    Organization  
10            "The Fraternity Situation" by Dean Clark  
11:15        ""Results of a Survey of Health Supervision" by Dean Robt. Rienow  
2:00 P.M.    "Student Standards" by Dean Stanley Coulter  
3:00 P.M.    "Student Self Government" by Dean Nicholson

Saturday, February 21

- 9:30 A.M.    "The Housing Problem" by Dean A.R. Priest  
10            "The Support of Student Activities" by Dean Nicholson  
11            "Maintenance of Scholarship Standards" by Dean Rienow
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#### FRATERNITY PROBLEMS

At the University of Illinois, all fraternities were taboo until 1891. Dean Clark has been continuously connected with the university since that date and has seen the founding of all organizations now in existence there. These total eighty organizations occupying separate houses. Forty-two of them are national social fraternities

At Illinois, the fraternity men dominate the social and political activities of the student body. There is little opportunity for leadership outside of the fraternities for the reason that as soon as a non-fraternity student begins to become prominent in any field, he is immediately asked and pledged by some fraternity. Dean Clark estimates that about 30% of the men in the

university are fraternity men, and that this one-third carried the bulk of the student activities, the remaining two-thirds of men doing comparatively little.

The fraternities have been very helpful:

- a) In providing good board and lodging for a larger portion of the student body.  
At the time of the mobilization of the S.A.T.C. in September, 1918, they rendered distinguished service in this direction, saving the university from a painful situation
- b) In serving as the instruments thru which student sentiment may be effectively influenced. Dean Clark tries to know all fraternity men and to maintain good relationships with them.

Prior to the way, the fraternities, under the pressure of publicity, were slowly bettering their scholarship. But the fraternity men were the very first to enter the service and they went in proportionately the greater numbers. The results was that during the years 1917-1918, 1918-1919, the chapters had little leadership, maintained little discipline, and in consequence are still in a state of demoralization. In general, the close of the war was followed by a sentiment of revolt against discipline, and the fraternities and sororities are seriously affected by this tendency. They now think they want to go back to the pre-war status, but they do not really know what the pre-war status was. They conceive of it as a joyous time when the lid was off and hence are struggling to return to it. Eccentric dancing, cigarette smoking among women, pressure for later hours for dances and booze smuggling are phases of this attempt to return to halcyon days of yore---as they are now conceived of.

The scholastic average of the fraternities has gone down badly. Last spring they were:

General average of the whole student body	3.38
General average of all men students	3.23
General average of all frat men	3.02
Highest frat average	3.38
Lowest frat average	2.56

The sophomore class of the current academic year, which came in as freshman under S.A.T.C regime, is the worst class, in Dean Clark's opinion, the university has had in years. They

have no discipline and don't want any. The casualties at the end of the first semester (Jan. 1920) were many.

The fraternities are very desirous of social activities, this year, and are restive under regulations. The rule in effect are: social functions may be held on Friday and Saturday nights only. Each organization may give not more than two parties in a given semester. Of the four given during the year, one may be a formal extending until two o'clock, all others must close at 12. Chaperones must be approved by the Dean of Women.

Last Fall, Dean Clark sent to each fraternity chapter in the university a copy of the following letter:

Urbana, Illinois

Nov. 20, 1920.

To fraternity Presidents:

I should like to present you in writing as briefly as possible what at the meeting of fraternity presidents last night I said or suggested in regard to the present fraternity situation. I shall be obliged to you if, at the next regular meeting of your chapter, you would read this letter to the members assembled.

I want to make it clear at the outset that I have the utmost friendliness toward fraternities. No one in this institution has stood for them more strongly than I have. I believe on the whole that they are a good thing, and that we should be badly handicapped without them.

The fraternity men went into war in proportionately greater numbers than did other college men. This left the fraternities, for the last two years at least, without proper management and without proper control. Fraternities have not taught their men self-discipline. They have disciplined them, or attempted to do so with a rather ridged hand. The underclassman in fraternities has not been taught to express an opinion, to direct his own activities, nor has he been allowed to do so. The low scholarship of fraternity freshmen at the present time is largely because freshman are not permitted to study in fraternity houses. They are made the servants and the errand boys of every other man in the house whether they have work to do or not. It is no wonder that their scholarship is low. When the war came on,

fraternities had few men to exercise discipline over the underclassmen, and the underclassmen exercised very little over themselves. The result is that the present junior and sophomore class are undisciplined; they are the loafers of the college.

There is a growing sentiment against fraternities all over the country among men who do not belong to these organizations. There is a growing opposition to them among the public in general and among the members of state legislatures. There is some reason for this. The scholarship of fraternity men has been low, considerably lower in fact, than that of the average men in college. Fraternity social activities have increased. It is the fraternity men who do a large percentage of the dancing that is done in college and who are clamoring for more opportunity to dance. Fraternity men are spending money unwisely and selfishly. They are selfish in their social activities also, and a man outside of the fraternity has little opportunity unless he is unusually aggressive, for social pleasure or social preferment.

This situation must change in this institution and all over the country or the fraternity will have to go. The scholarship of the fraternity must be brought up to the general college average or above it. Social activities must be curtailed. The extravagant expenditure of money must be reduced. The fraternity man must be more democratic and less selfish. His moral and social ideal must be raised. He must be less a loafer and more of a student.

This condition will not be brought about by the rigid discipline of freshmen alone, although that will help. The responsibility is upon the upperclassman to study as many hours a week and to be in his room as many hours a week as the freshman is required to be. He may lay down rules, but he must follow them himself. Until the upperclassmen will willingly act as example to the underclassmen of unselfish good manners, of regular study, or respect for house rules, and a regard for high moral ideals, the fraternities are not going to improve. I want them very much to improve. I shall do anything in my power to bring about a better social, moral and intellectual condition here, and I ask for the earnest cooperation of every loyal fraternity man.

Very sincerely yours,

THOMAS ARKLE CLARK

The effects of this letter and of other influences which have been brought to bear on the fraternity group, have undoubtedly been good. Dean Clark submitted the following:

RULES AS ADOPTED BY THE PAN HELLENIC COUNCIL OF THE UNIV. OF ILLINOIS

1. The standard average for members of this council shall be 3.0 literal.
2. All members of the council failing to comply with the prescribed standard shall go on trial for the semester next following.
3. If at the end of the trial semester those members on trial fail to equal the required standard of scholarship, they shall be automatically suspended from this council and from all activities over which this council has control.
4. Any member so suspended for failure to comply with the fore-going regulations may be reinstated only upon written recommendation from the office of the Dean of Men, which recommendation shall state that the average of that fraternity for the previous semester equals the prescribed Pan-Hellenic standard.
5. All suspensions for failure to comply with the fore-going regulations shall be given full publicity.

There is no question in Dean Clark's mind that the fraternities are beginning to assume a less recalcitrant attitude and that they will eventually "come back" to a status fully as good as their ante-bellum condition.

In the information discussion of Dean Clark's remarks, it developed that Iowa requires the chapter to maintain a certain average before it may initiate new men. Now that certain chapters have failed to meet the requirement, there is a great agitation to change the rule. (A set of resolutions which is up for adoption at Iowa has been received from Dean Rienow subsequent to our meeting. It shows a determination on the part of the Faculty to maintain the rule.) Iowa was the only institution represented which placed the requirement on the chapter instead of on the individual.

Indiana requires freshmen to pass all their hours in order to be eligible for initiation.

At Illinois he must be passed in 11 hours.

At Michigan the requirement is the same as at Illinois.

At Minnesota he must pass 75% of his work for one quarter

At Kentucky he must make an average of C.

At Purdue, he is eligible if he has no unsatisfied condition on his record.

At Wisconsin he is eligible if not on probation.

SURVEY OF HEALTH SUPERVISION SYSTEMS  
HEALTH SUPERVISION IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

By Dean Robert Rienow  
(Presented by Professor Rietz)

In view of the inability of the writer to prepare the proper paper for presentation of a survey of health reports made by various universities a year ago, I am asking our representative, Professor Reitz, to bring to you the report made by a committee appointed last year, of which the writer was chairman, to present this entire matter to the president of the Board of Education for consideration and action. The result of this report was the establishment of a student health fee, payable by each student at the University, \$1.75 per quarter, the establishment of a student health physician, together with a competent assistant, and also a practicing physician, a sanitary inspector and two nurses. There was also established a student dispensary open all day, to which students might come for examination, help, advice, or simple treatment.

This fee also entitled the student who was sick in his room to call the student health physician or his assistant for examination, simple treatment, or reference to the hospital. So far this fee has not entitled the student to hospital care. The student going to a hospital is still required to pay regular hospital charges, not including any charges for medical or surgical attention or medicine. These are, and always have been, free, even when given by the head of a department. For example, a student may be taken ill at this room. He calls the student health physician. An examination is made and the case is diagnosed as acute appendicitis. The student is immediately taken to the University hospital, put under the care of the head of the department of surgery. Either he or his immediate assistant performs the operation, the student is given his room in the hospital, the bill being simply for room service, that is room and board. It has frequently been the case that a student would come out of an operation of this

kind for as low as \$20.00. The total hospital bill for 21 students for the year 1917-1918 was \$6,611.05. The average bill for men students was \$24.20 and for women students \$28.39.

We have, however, been met with the peculiar attitude, common I think to faculties of medical colleges or of some departments in these colleges, who feel that the student who comes to a University is simply a citizen and therefore that the college of Medicine, or its hospital, are under no obligation or responsibility to treat him other than as a citizen. May I say in this connection that as a result of the survey made of about sixty of the leading institutions there was a growing feeling that the institution was responsible in a very large degree, not only for the care of the student when sick, but in maintaining proper health conditions while he was well.

Large programs for caring for student health are under way at the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin. As I have indicated in the report of this committee, Michigan has already done a splendid work, without exception, I think so far the best of any institution reporting, although Minnesota, with its new health program, bids fair to set the standard.

One question which the University of Iowa will meet during the coming year or two will be to so organization the health fee that it shall become practically a hospital insurance fee, and shall provide for all hospital and medical treatment for students who need same. We thought it wise to begin on a small small scale in order to provide an adequate fund for operation so that it will be eventually become a system of student hospital insurance.

Another result of our experience in the University of Iowa has been that of an infirmary for students separate from a University Hospital attached to the Medical College, where such hospital and college exists, is very undesirable. In many institutions, the student health fee provides for what might be termed a "Contract Surgeon" or physician. The plan in the University of Iowa will be to use to the largest degree the valuable skilled training of the heads of departments in the University for all cases that need their attention, and any hospital or infirmary erected for students should be under the direct charge of the University hospital. Provision should be made for students to use such infirmary either for mild illness or for longer and more serious cases, but it has seemed to be a mistake to separate the care of student



health from a medical college or hospital where such exist. Of course in the cases of institutions not supporting a college of medicine, the care of student health must be upon a different basis and the infirmary in all probability open to local practice. In such cases, it would be doubtful as to whether a plan of health insurance could be devised which would guarantee medical and surgical treatment of a superior quality, altho hospital insurance might very well be a part of the health plan.

## STUDENT STANDARDS

Dean Coulter began by pointing out the great displacement of ethical standards and values in the public mind today as compared with a few years since, and considered it only natural that we should find a reflex of these things among students. We can pardon their shortcomings more readily than we could do if their elders were setting them a better example.

Students have caught the idea that youth is after all the ultimate hope of the world. It was youth which was called upon in the time of great need to go forth and die if need be that the nation might live. They went and submitted to every requirement of a rigorous discipline for the duration of the war, but now, returned to civilian life again, they are more restive and impatient than ever before of the restraints.

But this restlessness and impatience is unfortunately accompanied by a lowering of standards of work and conduct which is deplorable. Their standards of

- (a) quality of college work are low
- (b) integrity in their work are low
- (c) ethical conduct are low.

a. They appear to be utterly lacking in scholarly enthusiasm. To be sure, our institutions may share blame with them in this, for we are unable at present to provide a sufficient number of adequately trained teachers who are capable of awakening scholarly enthusiasm. But even those teachers who are well trained and enthusiastic are unable to do much with the present day students. The student standard of achievement in class room work is distressingly low. The idea seems to be to "get by", i.e., just over the dead line, is customary,

and felt to be respectable. Men get elected to honor societies on grades which would not have sufficed before the war; and then they often go down sadly in their work afterwards.

Cons and fails apparently have no unfavorable effect upon a man's social, political or fraternity standing nor upon his general respectability. The group standards, too, are low, possibly even lower than the individual standards. A large percentage of fraternity men and sorority women are delinquent at Purdue. Still these delinquents do not lose oast in any way, and their poor scholarship seems to be no handicap whatever to them in any other field. A few hopeful symptoms are perceptible, however, of late in the cancellation of pledges and even of membership by a few fraternities because of delinquent scholarship.

The freshman are systematically demoralized at the outset of their college course by rushing, pledging, hazing, football, etc., all of which naturally tends to lower their standards. They adapt themselves quickly to almost any new environment, but they of course drop to a lower plane much more readily than they rise to a higher. Beyond doubt, the standard of conduct prevalent among college students, as it presents itself to him during the first two or three weeks of his freshman year, is lower than that of the high school from which he so recently graduated. This first impression is unquestionably a very serious disadvantage.

The group and individual standards of integrity are also low, cribbing is distressingly prevalent. This form of dishonesty is condoned by good students even and the only discredit connected with it in the student mind is in allowing oneself to get caught. They bring the practice in with them from the high school where it flourishes. The effects of this dishonesty in connection with the low standards of scholarship which are prevalent are a serious menace to the aims of the college life. The struggle against these things is worthy of our best efforts. Theoretically the honor system is good, but it would be folly to attempt its introduction while present views prevail. An attempt at Purdue proved unsuccessful.

Ethical standards are low. Kipling remarks upon "how many things are which no decent fellow could do". Not so with our students. They seem rather to observe how many things there are which a decent fellow can get away with.

There has been a great wave of stealing and pilfering in our colleges. In the army a man was supposed to keep his kit complete. If anything was missing, he promptly stole a substitute from his neighbor. This practice seems now to have been brought over into student life.

Our important task as advisors of men is the attack along ethical lines. Other standards are to be raised best in this way. We must recognize the general state of demoralization and not judge too harshly, but we must no less recognize that this matter of low standards is our gravest problem.

Dean Coulter's paper struck responsive chords in the minds of all present and he was repeatedly compelled to suspend operations indefinitely (which he did with admirable good nature) while his colleagues aired their views in matters he had brought up. One of the lyric intermezzos concerned the grade point system in use at Iowa, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Another revolved about the value vs the utter futility of talks to freshmen by the President or the Dean of Men, as practiced in virtually all of the universities. Opinion varied enormously as to the efficiency of these freshmen lectures. A third subject was the honor system, not generally in practice in this part of the country. Illinois, however, is now trying it out. Dean Clark was non-committal as to the success of the system. The student committee has tried 60 cases and send away ten students, all freshmen. A student who is convicted may appeal to the faculty. Minnesota has experimented with the honor system in past years. Some success was achieved before the war but the situation is at present very unsatisfactory.

#### STUDENT SELF-GOVERNMENT

Dean Nicolson described the form of self-government as it began at Minnesota. The penalties were originally too drastic, but they were subsequently tempered. There are student councils in the various colleges to act as intermediaries between the faculty and the students. When the term "student government" began to assume a dangerous significance, they began to talk about "student cooperation" and the effect of this change has been good. To obviate the working at cross purposes of the various college councils, an all-university council is now forming which will be composed of the presidents of the various college councils. The council takes care of the elections, eligibility of candidates for officerships of classes and their organizations, and dates for events.

At Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, dates are set and eligibility is determined by a faculty committee or representative.

Petty graft in financial matters causes considerable difficulty at several of the institutions. At Minnesota various faculty student committees are working at this matter. They have charge of the events and are accomplishing the desired end in most cases. Special contract forms, budgets required in advance and audits afterward, and the letting of contracts by committees composed of both men and women were proposed as corrective means.

Dean Nicholson reports a considerable slump in the work of the college councils. The only progress that is being made is on the part of the all-university council and upon it the Dean bases his hope for the future. The other members of the discussion group were somewhat skeptical as to the value of the separate college councils.

In Illinois, they have the town divided into student wards and the student council men are elected from these various wards, as a councilman from the first ward, councilman from the second ward, etc.

#### HOUSING PROBLEMS by Dean T.A. Clark

At Illinois, the former Y.M.C.A. building is now rented by the University at a rental of \$5,000.00 per annum and is given over to the University Union. It accommodates about 120 men in the dormitory. Dean Clark has organized student self-government within the building for the maintenance of good order. He finds it quite successful on the whole. He is entirely in favor of the development of dormitories for men in which moderate rentals shall prevail.

As to private lodging houses, Dean Clark reported his practice as follows: a man may move at the end of any month unless there is an express agreement for the semester. In the latter case, a man is held to his agreement. If the house is cold, or dirty, or if other conditions are bad, the Dean may give a man permission to move at any time.

Regarding the charge during the holidays, Professor Strauss reported that at Michigan as a result of agitation by the Michigan Daily it has come to be settled practice that half rate is paid by the student during the holiday season. The participation in this discussion of the housing problem was general and a very great interest was displayed in it. Upon motion by

Professor Strauss, seconded by Dean Melcher, the conference discussed and adopted the following resolution;

“Resolved, that it is the opinion and recommendation of this Conference that the Universities represented should make every effort to control the living conditions of their students; this end can best be secured by the establishment of dormitories and commons for both men and women.”

Support of Student Activities, by Dean Nicholson.

The plan of a blanket tax on all students for the support of athletics, the Gopher, the Daily and one of two other all-university activities is being advocated at Minnesota, and will probably prevail. At the University of Kentucky a blanket tax of \$4.50 which the students voted upon themselves is collected by the University for the support of the activities. At Minnesota, it is proposed that other new publications or activities which desire to be supported by the tax must first establish themselves and prove their merits and their right to such recognition. The plan in general is vigorously opposed by the athletic association for the reason that that income of the association would be greatly decreased thereby. It is not yet clear as to whether the plan will be adopted or not. At present the university publishes a daily bulletin which is sent to each student and professor. The expense to the institution is \$20 per day. Dean Nicholson counts upon publishing this information in the student daily under the blanket tax plan in which case every student would receive the daily and that university would pay its share of costs for the space.

Dean Clark reported that at the University of Illinois the blanket tax idea has been opposed because of the many poor students who could not afford to pay it.

CONSIDERATION OF THE QUESTION OF SCHOLARSHIP

It was agreed by the members of the conference to collect and supply for our next year's meeting data on the following topics:

- A. What is being done to encourage better scholarship?
- B. Dropping students because of poor scholarship
- C. The number of students dropped for poor scholarship
- D. What number of these dropped students reinstate themselves and how

E. Is there a considerable divergence of practice among the institutions with regard to dropping and readmitting poor students

Dean Rienow of Iowa will later send out a questionnaire and he will be asked to give a paper on this subject at next year's meeting.

The members of the Conference were provided with tickets and invitations to attend the Military Ball on the evening of Friday, February 20, an opportunity which most of them gladly availed themselves.

*On Saturday morning the following letter was received from Dean Warnock:*

Pennsylvania State College  
State College, Pa.

February 19, 1920

Office of the Dean of Men,  
Dean S.H. Goodnight,  
152 Administration Building,  
Urbana, Illinois

My dear Dean Goodnight,

I find it will be impossible for me to attend the meeting of the Deans and Advisors of Men this week. I regret my inability to be present but wish to keep my interest in this conference. I hope next year to be present. If any minutes are kept or any of the proceedings published, I should be glad to have copies.

From my brief experience among the eastern institutions, I can say frankly that the middle west institutions are far in the lead in this kind of work. I find that the trustees and presidents of most eastern institutions are looking to the West and its work along this line. Many of them have plans to introduce this kind of work into their institutions. I think it would be extremely helpful to the whole educational world if the members of your conference would publish as much about their work as they can in the various educational journals.

Yours very truly,

(signed) A.R. Warnock

## Dean of Men

ARW/M

On Saturday noon, those members of the conference who were not obliged to leave early were delightfully entertained at luncheon by Dean and Mrs. Clark in their beautiful home and had the pleasure of meeting President and Mrs. Kinley.

Dean Clark and Assistant Dean Garmann proved most exemplary hosts. The perfection of their arrangements in every detail added a genuine pleasure to the profit which all members of the Conference derived from the discussions.

*In addition to the minutes of the second annual meeting, several newspaper accounts of the proceedings are available:*

*"The Daily Illini, Tuesday, February 17, 1920*

*Vol. XLIX, No. 102*

## DEANS OF MEN TO HOLD CONFERENCE

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Representatives of 12 Schools will Gather Here Friday

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### Dean Clark to Give Talk

Deans of men from twelve colleges and universities throughout the Middle West will meet in conference Friday and Saturday at the University to discuss problems of student life. The meeting has been called here at the invitation of Dean Thomas Arkle Clark who was the first holder of that title, the office of the dean of men having been originated at the University in 1909.

Among those who will attend the conference are Dean A.R. Warnock of Pennsylvania State College, formerly assistant dean of men at the University, Dean S.H. Goodnight of the University of Wisconsin, Dean E.E. Nicholson, of the University of Minnesota, Dean Stanley Coulter of Purdue University, Dean Clarence Edmondson of the University of Indiana, Dean

Robert Rienow of the University of Iowa, Dean C.R. Melchor of the University of Kentucky, and Dean A.R. Priest of the University of Washington.

Professor Louis A. Strauss will represent the University of Michigan, which has not yet created the office of the dean of men, although steps have been taken toward its inauguration. Another acceptance received by Dean Clark is that of Professor L.I. Reed who will come from Iowa State Teachers' College. The University of Chicago and the University of Arkansas are also expected to send representatives.

Sessions will continue through Friday morning and afternoon and Saturday morning, opening with a discussion of 'The Fraternity Situation' by Dean Clark. Other topics will be health supervision, student standards, student self-government, the housing problem, student activities and the maintenance of scholarship standards. The meetings will be held in the Board of Trustees chamber, 354 Administration Building."

*"The Daily Illini, Tuesday, February 18, 1920*

*Vol. XLIX, No. 103*

#### CLARK TO ADDRESS MEETING OF DEANS

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Will Discuss Problems of Student Life Before College Representatives

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#### Is Creator of Position

Dean Clark will deliver the principal address at the conference of deans which is to convene here Friday and Saturday to discuss problems of student life. His talk, 'The Fraternity Situation' will open the sessions. Representatives from twelve colleges and universities throughout the middle west have indicated that they will be here in response to the invitation of Dean Thomas Arkle Clark, who is father of the deans of men, having been the first to hold that title in the United States. The meetings will be held in the Board of Trustees chamber, 354 Administration Building.



Dena A.R. Warnock of Pennsylvania State College, formerly assistant dean of men at the University, will attend this conference. Among the others who will be here for the sessions are: Dean S.H. Goodnight of the University of Wisconsin, Dean E.E. Nicholson, University of Minnesota, Dean Stanley Coulter of Purdue University, Dean Clarence Edmondson of the University of Indiana, Dean Robert Rienow of the University of Iowa, Dean C.R. Melcher of the University of Kentucky, and Dean A.R. Priest of the University of Washington.

#### Michigan Represented

Professor Louis A. Strauss will represent the University of Michigan, which has not yet created the office of dean of men, although steps have been taken towards its inauguration. Another acceptance received by Dean Clark is that of Professor L.I. Reed, who will come from Iowa State Teachers' College. The University of Chicago and the University of Arkansas are also expected to send representative.

Among the topics to be discussed at the conference are student standards, health supervision, student self-government, student activities, the housing problem, and the maintenance of improved scholarship averages."

*"The Daily Illini, Friday, February 20, 1920*

*Vol. XLIX, No. 105*

#### DEANS TO CONSIDER STUDENT PROBLEMS

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First Session of Conference to be Opened By Dean Clark This Morning

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#### Warnock Unable to Come

Deans of Men from a dozen universities in the middle west and western states will meet at 9 o'clock this morning in the board of trustees chamber, 354 Administration building, to discuss problems affecting student life and activities.

Most of the men who will take part in the conference arrived yesterday evening and the others are expected this morning in the time for the first session.

A.R. Warnock, dean of men at Pennsylvania State College and formerly assistant dean of men her, will be unable to come to the conference because of the pressure of registration duties.

#### Called by Dean Clark

The convention was called here by Dean Thomas Arkle Clark to deal with some of the problems connected with student life. Among the topics to be considered are student standards, health supervision, student self government, the housing problem, student activities and the maintenance of scholastic standards. Dean Clark is virtually dean of deans, being first holder of that title in the country. The office of the dean of men originated at the University in 1909.

Dean E.E. Nicholson of the University of Minnesota arrived yesterday morning and spent the entire afternoon at Dean Clark's office. He utilized his time in familiarizing himself with the systematic arrangement which has been built up to take care of student records."

\*The Champaign News-Gazette, Friday, February 20, 1920  
Vol. 25, No. 180.

#### DEANS TO MEET HERE TO DISCUSS MEN

Unbalanced post-war days present varied problems, but perhaps none is more difficult than that of working out efficient systems for the guidance of a big student body. Dean Thomas Arkle Clark and his colleagues are making an attempt by mooted in conference at the University to discuss important problems of modern student life.

The meeting of deans of men from 12 colleges and universities of the middle west was called her by Dean Clark who was the first holder of that title, the office of the dean of mean have been originated in the University in 1909. He opened the Friday morning session with a discussion of the fraternity situation. Other topics will center on student activities, maintenance of scholarship standards, student standards, self-government, and health supervision.

Those invited are Dean A.R. Warnock of Pennsylvania State College, formerly assistant dean of men at the University; Dean S.H. Goodnight of the University of Wisconsin, Dean E.E. Nicholson of the University of Minnesota, Dean Stanley Coulter of Purdue University, Dean

Clarence Edmondson of the University of Indiana, Dean Robert Rienow of the University of Iowa, Dean C.R. Melcher of the University of Kentucky, Dean A.R. Priest of the University of Washington, and Professor L.I. Reed of the Iowa State Teachers' College. Professor Louis A. Strauss will represent the University of Michigan which has not yet created the office of dean of men, although steps in that direction have been formally take. The University of Chicago and University of Arkansas are also expected to send representatives.

Word has been received that Dean Warnock will unable to attend.

The members of the conference will be entertained Saturday noon at a luncheon in their honor at the home of Dean and Mrs. Clark."

*"The Daily Illini, Saturday, February 21, 1920*

*Vol. XLIX, No. 106*

#### T.A. CLARK CHOSEN PRESIDENT OF MEN DEAN'S ASSOCIATION

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#### Talks on Student Activities and Problems Make Up Conference Program

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#### Plan Annual Convention

Dean Thomas Arkle Clark was elected president and Dean S.H. Goodnight of the University of Wisconsin, secretary of the newly formed association of deans of men of the middle west in the first session of the conference held at the University yesterday. Dean Robert Rienow of the University of Iowa, although unable to be present at the meeting here, will act with Dean Clark and Goodnight on the executive committee of the organization. The association will be permanent with the conference to be held annually at different universities, according to plans already formulated.

Dean Clark opened the meeting yesterday morning with a talk of the 'The Fraternity Situation', giving a brief sketch of the history of the Greek letter societies at the University and their influence on student life and activities. He laid particular emphasis on their scholastic

standing which in most institutions has taken a slump since the war and expressed the hope that within the next two years fraternities would be back on a normal scholarship basis.

#### Health Measures Effective

The Results of a Survey of Health Supervision Systems' were outlined by Professor H.L. Rietz, formerly a member of faculty of the department of mathematics at the University, who represented the University of Iowa in the place of Dean Rienow. Professor Rietz described as effective the measures then to protect student health as most middle western universities, although few of them have adopted the hospital association system in use here.

Dean Stanley Coulter of Purdue University, opened the afternoon session of the conference with a discussion of 'Student Standards'. The three standards named by Dean Coulter, achievement, integrity and ethical standards of life – he characterized as being far beneath the desired level. 'Student scholastic ideal are too low,' he said, 'and the prevalence of petty graft, cribbing and other forms of campus dishonesty leaves little doubt as to the degree of student integrity. The purpose of the dean of men should be to set ideals by which the student lives,' he concluded.

#### Student Government Topic

Tracing the history of student self-control from its beginning when no restraint was placed upon campus life through all the later stages of faculty supervision, Dean E.E. Nicholson of the University of Minnesota, introduced the subject of 'Self-Government.' He mentioned chiefly the present-day tendency of most colleges and universities to permit the student control his own activities, once he has proved an ability and a willingness to do so.

The conference will continue until noon today. Topics to be considered this morning are 'The Housing Problem', 'The Support of Student Activities', by Dean Nicholson, and a round table discussion on 'The Maintenance of Scholarship Standards'.

Dean Clark and Mrs. Clark will entertain the visiting deans and a few members of the University faculty at luncheon this soon."

"The Daily Illini, Sunday, February 22, 1920

Vol. XLIX, No. 107

VISITING DEANS END SUCCESSFUL SESSION

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## Eight Deans of Men From Middle West Universities Attend; Form New Association

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### Housing Problem General

Deans of men from eight universities in the middle west ended their conference at the University yesterday noon, after a session which continued throughout the morning. The next meeting of the newly formed association will be held at the University of Iowa in 1921.

Discussion of the 'Housing Problem' which opened the morning session, revealed that rooming facilities in all the universities represented in the conference have been taxed this year as never before and that emergency measures have everywhere been necessary to relieve the congestion.

A recommendation offered by the deans as a means of solving the problem was embodied in a resolution declaring that the responsibility rests with university authorities to provide dormitories and commons for both men and women.

### Need A Sanitary One

"Some provisions necessary to insure good sanitary conditions in the present overcrowded state of the university rooming and boarding houses,' said Dean Thomas Arkle Clark.

Deans who attended the conference are Dean E.E. Nicholson of the University of Minnesota; Dean S.H. Goodnight of the University of Wisconsin; Dean C.E. Edmondson of the University Indiana; Dean C.R. Melcher of the University of Kentucky; Dean Stanley Coulter of Purdue University; Professor Louis A. Strauss of the University of Michigan and professor H.L. Rietz of the University of Iowa.

Dean A.R. Warnock of Pennsylvania State College, formerly assistant dean of men at the University, was unable to be present. Professor Rietz took the place of Dean Robert Rienow who was also prevented from attending.

Dean Clark and Mrs. Clark entertained the visiting deans at a luncheon yesterday noon. Other guests were President David Kinley and Mrs. Kinley, Professor H.L. Creek, Professor A.R. Seymour, formerly assistant dean of foreign student here, and Dean H.B. Garman."

*"The Champion News-Gazette, Sunday, February 22, 1920*

*Vol. 25, No. 182*

#### HOUSING PLANS ARE DISCUSSED AT UNIVERSITY

A resolution recommending the establishment of University dormitories and commons were passed at the last meeting of the conference of the association of deans of men which closed Saturday noon after a three-hour session.

Problems of housing students was the first question taken up. A comparison of the prices charged for room and board at different universities was discussed. Dean T. A. Clark told of the system which if being carried on in a small way at the Woman's residence hall and the Illinois Union Building. He declared that the housing of students is a big problem at all universities. 'Elaborate accommodations are not wanted but they should be comfortable and moderately priced, he declared and said further, 'If we have a thousand more men here next year I don't know how in the world that can be housed.'

Professor Rietz of Iowa told of making a men's dormitory of the S.A.T.C. barracks at Iowa and explained that system of self government that has been installed in them. Dean Strauss of Michigan said that the Michigan Union and the landlords have settled the question of holiday rents by agreeing that half rents shall be paid for the period between semesters. Unit houses for women students, such as are at Illinois were approved. Most of the schools have these now.

#### Resolutions

The resolution as it was passed reads as follows: 'Resolved: that it is the opinion and recommendation of this conference that the universities represented should make every effort to control the living conditions of their students; this end can best be secured by the establishment of dormitories and commons for both men and women.'

The plan of making quite a number of small dormitories rather than a few large ones was advocated by Dean Goodnight of Wisconsin. He said that they would cost less, the atmosphere of club life would prevail and discipline could be more easily obtained. He said that such a plan has proved successful at the Kohler plumbing works in Kohler, Wisconsin.

#### Managing Student Activities

Dean Nicholson of Minnesota gave a short talk on the management of student activities. The students of Minnesota are contemplating a blanket tax which will cover admission to all athletics, debating, and a subscription to the school paper. Dean Nicholson believes that it is best to concentrate on a few University activities rather than support many activities poorly. Dean Melchor of Ken – (the next line was omitted from print) tax system which admitted the students to athletic games and entitled them to a subscription to the student paper. Dean Clark sad that the idea had often been brought up at Illinois but had never been adopted because so many students are working their way through school and it did not seem fair to make them pay extra tax when they really could not afford it.

Following a suggestion of Professor Rietz of Iowa, it was decided to bring to the next conference data on the scholarship of students and the per cent of those dropped for poor scholarship.

#### Middle West Leads

Dean Warnock of Pennsylvania, formerly assistant dean at Illinois, sent his regrets at not being able to be present. He stated that the middle west was far ahead of the east in the work that the deans were doing. 'The heads of eastern Universities are looking to you for ideas,' he wrote. He advised the publication of the work of the conference in educational journals of the country so that all may know what is being accomplished in the middle west.

It was decided to hold the next meeting pf the conference at Iowa about the first of May next year."

These letters, minutes, and newspaper accounts give us a fairly complete account of what transpired at the second annual conference. In summary account for inclusion in the appendix of the minutes of previous meeting, the topics discussed were as follows:

#### SECOND MEETING

1. Fraternity Problem
2. Results of a survey of health supervision standards.
3. Student standards
4. Student self government
5. The housing problem

6. The support of student activities

7. The maintenance of scholarship standards

This completes the record, in so far as it is obtainable for the first and second annual conferences of the Deans and advisors of men; this record should compete the minutes of the association and make available for all time, the records of how the association was started, who attended the first and second meetings, and what topics were discussed at the two original meetings.

Kari Ellingson, December 2017